FACILITATING IMPROVED RELIABILITY OF INTERNET GROUP MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL THROUGH THE USE OF ACKNOWLEDGE MESSAGES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5   One embodiment of the disclosures made herein is a method for facilitating a multicast group switch via a single Internet Group Management Protocol message. In accordance with such method, an operation for receiving an Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP) Membership Report message designating a request for altering a present membership status with respect to designated multicast information. The IGMP message is 10   transmitted from a requesting system. An operation is performed for determining a membership action associated with the IGMP Membership Report message. In response to determining the membership action, an operation is performed for preparing a membership acknowledge message. The membership acknowledgment message designates a resulting membership status associated with the request for altering the present membership status. An 15   operation is then performed for transmitting the membership acknowledge message for reception by the requesting system.